

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY CHESAPEAKE BAY PROGRAM OFFICE

410 Severn Avenue, Suite 109 Annapolis, Maryland 21403

Chesapeake Bay Criteria Document Reviewer

December 16, 2002

Thank you for investing the time to review the draft *Technical Support Document for the Identification of Chesapeake Bay Designated Uses and Attainability*. To ensure your comments, concerns, ideas and recommendations are factored into the final version of this technical support document (TSD), please read through the following instructions for submission of your comments.

Second Round of Review. A prior draft of this document was published as Appendix A to the draft *Ambient Water Quality Criteria for Dissolved Oxygen, Water Clarity and Chlorophyll a for Chesapeake Bay and its Tidal Tributaries* and reviewed in May - July 2002. Appendix A included a detailed description of the new and refined designated uses. This TSD includes an expanded version of the description of the new and refined designated uses, in addition to analyses pertaining to attainability of these uses.

Solicitation of Comments on this TSD. EPA is particularly interested in comments on the value of the information in this TSD to the jurisdictions that may eventually be using it for their Use Attainability Analyses during their Water Quality Standards development and adoption process. In addition, we encourage comments on the following:

- The analyses that justify why the current broad aquatic life designated uses should be changed
- The analyses to delineate the boundaries for the new and refined designated uses
- The technologies and costs used to define the nutrient and sediment load reduction tiers
- The analyses to determine technological attainability
- The method and results of the screening level economic analyses

Comments Must be Received by January 26, 2003. Given plans to document written responses to each individual comment received, we would prefer comments submitted in an electronic format. We will take comments written in the margins, faxed and/or sent in as hard copy through regular mail. Please cite the chapter, page number and paragraph (if appropriate) when providing more detailed comments. We strongly encourage comments providing recommended alternative language. The more specific the comments, the better we can incorporate responses into the final document.

Please Address Your Comments to Comments should be emailed to TSD@chesapeakebay.net, faxed to 410-267-5777 or sent by regular mail to Allison Wiedeman, U.S. EPA Chesapeake Bay Program Office, 410 Severn Avenue, Suite 109, Annapolis, MD 21403. Please direct any questions about the TSD to my attention at 410-267-5733 or via email at wiedeman.allison@epa.gov.

On behalf of the members of the Chesapeake Bay Water Quality Steering Committee, thank you for your interest in helping define this first of its kind Chesapeake Bay Use Attainability Analyses technical support, developed through the collaborative efforts of partners across the six-state watershed.

Allison Wiedeman

Technology Coordinator